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Docket No. 8733.894.00
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Gee-Sung CHAE et al.

Customer No.: 30827

Application No. 10/705,914

Confirmation No. 7320

Filed: November 13, 2003

Art Unit: 2871

For: THIN FILM TRANSISTOR HAVING A
COPPER SIGNAL LINE AND METHOD OF
MANUFACTURING THE SAME

Examiner: Lauren Nguyen

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT WITH TRAVERSE

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed August 2, 2007, Applicant hereby provisionally elects Group II, Species A1, claims 9-12, 15 and 16, for continued examination, with traverse.

The species A1, directed to the copper compound being formed in a processing chamber where a gas flows that chemically combines with the copper (cf. claim 10), and the species A2, directed to the copper compound being formed in a processing chamber where a gas flows that does not chemically combine with the copper (cf. claim 13), as classified by the Examiner, are not independent or distinct. As such, it is improper to issue a restriction requirement. The test for restriction is discussed in M.P.E.P. §§ 802 and 803. According to M.P.E.P. §803, in order for a restriction requirement to be proper, "the invention must be independent or distinct as claimed" and there must be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is required.

Applicant submits the claims 9-16 of Group II of the present application are not independent from one another. Both the copper compound layer and the copper layer are disclosed in independent claim 9 of Group II, and they are not the same. Claim 10 of species A1 pertains to formation of the copper compound layer, and claim 13 of species A2 pertains to

formation of the copper layer. Thus, it would not be a serious burden on the Examiner to examine both species of claims.

Accordingly, because the inventions recited in species A1 and A2 of Group II are not independent, the restriction for Group II is not proper.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 4, 2007

By



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